

# 10 Critical Steps to Redefine Justice

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1. Acknowledge crime and criminalization as a public health problem and prioritize prevention as a critical ingredient of justice work.
2. Strengthen communities and create the cross sector partnerships needed to enhance social capital, prevent crime, eliminate criminalization and reduce recidivism.
3. Support justice professionals and other stakeholders by providing them with adequate training and professional development, maintaining healthy organizational cultures and engaging them as system reformers.
4. Improve policies and practices for historically neglected communities, including women and girls, people of Color, individuals who identify as LGBTQI+, immigrants, refugees and veterans.
5. Use lessons learned from newer research (e.g., on gender and trauma) to rethink and improve policies and practices for boys and men, and all gender groups.
6. Engage individuals with lived experiences – and their families – in the criminal justice system as co-researchers, co-designers and co-leaders of research and solutions.
7. Acknowledge and address the impact of trauma and the power of human resilience in the design and delivery of justice policies, programs, services and operational practices.
8. Eliminate justice policies and practices that criminalize survivorship and replicate trauma, racism, sexism, heterosexism, ableism and other forms of oppression.
9. Evolve and expand our research methods to facilitate more comprehensive analyses of the social and political determinants of crime and criminalization and the ways in which gender, race, ethnicity, class, ability and other identities intersect to influence system involvement, experiences and outcomes.
10. Implement responsive practices throughout the continuum of justice interventions and services.

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